

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES COLLABORATIVE COMMISSION
MEETING NOTES – SEPTEMBER 11, 2013
CITY HALL, SISTER CITIES ROOM

ATTENDANCE

Present

Rosaria Casiano	J. Glenn Hopkins	Jeffrey Murphy
Councilman John Chapman	Stacey Joyner	Timothy Peterson
William Chesley	Councilman Timothy Lovain	Joyce Rawlings
Andria Cook	Mike Mackey	Cynthia Skinner
Rose Dawson	Tammy Mann	Dan Solomon
Mike Gilmore	Sean McEneaney	Emma West
Samuel Hanoura	Gwen Mullen	Marc Williams

Excused Absent

Bill Campbell	Margaret Walsh
Sonia Price	

Unexcused Absent

Victoria Cattaneo

Guests

Kiley Bednar	Richard Merritt	Shannon Weatherly
Carolene Charles	Lyndon E. Murray	

Review and Approval of Draft June Meeting Notes

Because there were no corrections or revisions to the draft meeting notes, Sean McEneaney moved approval and Tammy Mann seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Briefing on Draft Children and Youth Master Plan and Roll-Out

Chair Timothy Peterson began the discussion with an acknowledgement that CYFCC needs to own the youth master plan. Commissioners will vote to approve the plan and the amendment process affords everyone the opportunity to provide input. Commissioners should be prepared to vote on the plan and all amendments at a special meeting that will be held within ten days. Chair Peterson moved that a special session be held on September 18 and the motion was seconded by Mike Gilmore. At the request of Dan Solomon, any amendments are to be submitted before the 18th. Ms. Mann asked if the plan would be adopted on the 18th or if more time was an option. Mr. Solomon stated the Executive Committee voted to publish the plan, not adopt it. The motion to schedule the special meeting for September 18 at 7 p.m. passed unanimously.

Glenn Hopkins raised the possibility of a meeting after the 18th. It was the position of Mr. McEneaney that the Commission needs to be thoughtfully considering all that is going on. He advised that a second meeting be scheduled after the meeting of the 18th if necessary. Gwen Mullen moved (second by Mr. Gilmore) scheduling the meeting on the 25th rather than the 18th. Because it was proposed the vote on amendments be postponed until that meeting, Mr. Solomon moved adjournment with a second by Rose Dawson. The motion failed. Mr. Hopkins moved that all amendments be submitted by September 16 and distributed to commissioners in 24-48 hours. The motion was seconded by Gwen Mullen and passed.

Cynthia Skinner provided an overview of the youth master plan process and progress thus far. The Forum for Youth Investment synthesized the work of the strategy work groups and reviewed other Alexandria master plans to ensure alignment. The draft of the plan prepared by the Forum presents the priorities, strategies (what is needed to address the priorities), and action steps. After approval and buy-in, the Implementation and Monitoring Committee will oversee the development of an implementation plan for each action step. Mr. McEneaney asked if implementation plans will be approved by CYFCC; Ms. Skinner said that has not been addressed.

In accordance with an amendment submitted by Barbara Farrington, Chair Peterson moved the youth master plan include a listing of terms and acronyms. Mr. McEneaney seconded the motion, which passed. A second amendment by Ms. Farrington proposed that Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities (RPCA) be removed from Action Step 3 on page 14 because RPCA does not have licensed educational programs at this time. Glen Hopkins moved that the reference to RPCA be deleted; Sean McEneaney seconded the motion but it did not pass. William Chesley explained funding constraints prompted the move from state standards to local standards developed in conjunction with DCHS. RPCA, however, does model its programs after state programs. Mr. Solomon asked if this prohibited the department from getting grants. Mr. Chesley noted RPCA does not have the necessary infrastructure to pursue grants.

There was discussion of an amendment by Ms. Skinner to remove volunteerism and afterschool participation as headline indicators. The Developmental Assets survey collects data on “Service to Others”, which could be substituted for volunteerism. Mr. Solomon recommended adding an amendment to the data section regarding tracking volunteerism. Councilman Chapman argued there is a need to track afterschool participation. It was the opinion of Mr. Solomon that it is indicative of a larger problem if no one knows who is participating in afterschool programs; he recommended the metric remain and any challenges to infrastructure be handled separately. Mr. McEneaney moved volunteerism be removed as a metric while the indicator on afterschool participation remain. After a second by Chair Peterson, the motion carried.

Consideration of Recommendation from the Advocacy Committee

Mr. Hopkins, Chair of the Advocacy Committee, stated the legislative agenda was approved at the February meeting and recommendations regarding its top two items were being presented for informational purposes only. Mr. Gilmore recommended CYFCC be represented at legislative meetings. Ms. Mullen suggested advocating for universal preschool; Mr. Solomon suggested she write an amendment to that effect. He also suggested that the Advocacy Committee be aware of state legislation that impacts the youth master plan. Stacey Joyner stated CYFCC should advocate for the number of PreK slots awarded.

Adjournment

Ron Frazier shared a magazine with Ms. Mann on the cover. Jeff Murphy noted the first captain of the T.C. Williams rugby team (who is now an Air Force captain) will be competing in the 2016 Olympics. Joyce Rawlings stated another Alexandrian is competing in 2016 who is a boxer as well as a violinist. Chair Peterson mentioned an event acknowledging students with disabilities at the Kennedy Center that involves his wife. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.